

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /051 W

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R 141314Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7505

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3044

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL) PFOR PROP GH

SUB: VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GHANA

1. ASST SECY DAVIS VISITED GHANA MAY -8-12. THIS TELEGRAM SUMMARIZED THE VISIT AND REPORTS ON THE RECEPTION GIVEN TO HIM. SEPARATE TELEGRAMS ARE BEING SENT (1) MINUTES OF MEETING AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (2) REPORT OF DISCUSSION WITH COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS ON CIVIL AVIATION AND PAN AMERICAN, (3) DISCUSSIONS ON ECONOMIC AND AID QUESTIONS, AND (4) REPORT OF MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN ACHEAMPONG.

2. MFA: SEPTTEL GIVES REPORT OF MEETING WITH GHANAIAI SIDE, LED BY ACTING COMMISSIONER KOTEI. MEETING WAS HELD IN CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE, IN WICH KOTEI PUT FORWARD A NUMBER OF AREAS IN WHICH GHANA HAD DIFFERENCES WITH THE US OR IN WHICH IT DESIRED CLARIFICATION OF US POSITIONS. LENGTH OF FORMAL MEETING WITH KOTEI PRECLUDED SCHEDULED SEPARATE MEETING WITH LEADING MFA OFFICIALS. WHILE SEPTTEL REPORTS DISCUSSION, IT IS PERTINENT TO COMMENT THAT SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS ON GHANAIAI SIDE MADE SPECIFIC POINT TO AMBASSADOR AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR, WHO ACCOMPANIED ASST SECY, THAT THEY FELT MEETING WAS "MOST USEFUL" AND THEY WERE PLEASED WITH FORTHCOMING RESPONSES FROM AMBASSADOR

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DAVIS.

3. PRESS: GHANAIA PRESS HANDLED VISIT FACTUALLY AND WITH EDITORIAL COMMENT ON DAVIS' FORMER POST AS AMBASSADOR TO CHILE. STRONGEST EXAMPLE OF LATTER WAS EDITORIAL IN MAY 9 GHANAIA TIMES ENTITLED "WHOSE GUEST IS MAN DAVIS?" PIECE WENT INTO DETAIL ON PRESS IN CHILE, FREEDOM OF WHICH ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY CIA ACTION. DETAIL SO GREAT THAT IT CAN BE ASSUMED EDITORIAL WAS NOT WHOLLY PRODUCT OF TIMES STAFF. GRAPHIC OF SAME DAY, ON OTHER HAND, ENTITLED ITS EDITIRIAL "WELCOM DAVIS" AND

IN REASONABLY WELL-BALANCED FASHION REHEARSED OAU OBJECTIONS TO APPOINTMENT BUT SAW VISIT AS WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR AFRICANS TO KNOW DAVIS AND DAVIS TO LEARN ABOUT AFRICA. ENDED WITH "WE WISH HIM HAPPY STAY IN GHANA AND ALL THE BEST IN HIS NEW POST."

GRAPHIC MAY 10 HEADLINED STORY WITH "(CHAIRMAN) CAN'T MEET DAVIS" (WHICH WAS NOT BORNE OUT) AND CITED REASON THAT ACHEAMPONG WOULD BE BUSY WITH CONCURRENT VISIT OF NIGER PRESIDENT. REMAINDER OF STORY WAS FACTUAL RECOUNTING OF MFA MEETING. EDITORIAL IN GRAPHIC CRITICIZED US VIEWS ON COCOA AGREEMENT AND URGED US ADHERENCE. GHANAIA TIMES DID NOT MENTION VISIT ON MAY 10, AND NEITHER PAPER CARRIED STORY ON MAY 12. GHANA NEWS AGENCY, COVERING ASST SECY'S DEPARTURE, WAS INFORMED OF CALL ON ACHEAMPONG, BUT DID NOT CARRY ITEM IN ITS OUTPUT FOR THE DAY. MAY 13 GRAPHIC NOTED DAVIS' DEPARTURE AND ALSO "PAN AFRICAN YOUTH MOVEMENT" DEMAND THAT HE BE DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA.

3. TV: ASST SECY'S PRESS CONFERENCE AT AIRPORT WAS COVERED BY GHANA TELEVISION. ON MAY 12 DAVIS GAVE TV INTERVIEW, WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, WAS CURTAILED BY MALFUNCTIONING CAMERA.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES NOT BEING REPORTED ELSEWHERE INCLUDED DINNER BY AMBASSADOR BLACK MAY 9 AND RECEPTION BY HER FOLLOWING NIGHT. COL. KOTEI HOSTED LUNCHEON AT BLACK STAR SQUARE MAY 9, AT WHICH SOME FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH MFA OFFICIALS AND OTHER WERE POSSIBLE. IN TOAST, KOTEI REPEATED MANY OF POINTS MADE AT MFA MEETING, TO WHICH ASST SECY RESPONDED, USING MORE PUBLIC GATHERING TO REINFORCE STATEMENT OF US POSITIONS.

5. DURING DAY MAY 10, ASST SECY VISITED AKOSOMBO DAM AND WAS
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LUNCHEON GUEST OF VOLTA RIVER AUTHORITY (VRA) CHIEF EXECUTIVE QUARTEY. SATURDAY EVENING, RESIDENT DIRECTOR OF VOLTA ALUMINIUM (VALCO) HOSTED DINNER. (SEE SEPTTEL ON ECONOMIC MATTERS FOR VRA AND VALCO.)
BLACK

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